Forest degradation by mining operations in Orissa

2827. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale degradation of forests by the mining operations in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the guidelines sent to the mine owners to stop any further degradation; and

(d) the steps taken to restore the ecology in the mining area by each mine owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) No non forest activity including mining can take place in Forest areas without diversion of Forest land. The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF) grants permission for diversion of forest land for mining under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. MOEF has informed that no such repots regarding large scale degradation of forests by mining operation in Orissa have been received by the Central Government. However, monitoring of mining activities approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is the responsibility of the State Government.

Production by Coal India Ltd.

†2828. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism for the assessment of the quantum of coal being produced by the Coal India Ltd.;

(b) the quantum of coal produced by each company during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(c) the dates when the verification of the same was carried out; and

(d) the company-wise details of the shortage or surplus found in the said verification?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The assessment of the quantum of coal being produced is done from unit level to Coal India Level. The production from individual mine-underground or opencast are assessed and reported to area for computation of area production. Area wise production are sent to subsidiary headquarter where the subsidiary-wise production is assessed on the basis of which quantum of production in coal India Limited is computed on daily, monthly and annual basis.

(b) The quantum of raw coal produced by each company during the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are given below:

(in million tonnes)

Company	2000-2001	2001-2002
ECL	28.03	28.55
BCCL	25.97	25.25
CCL	31.75	33.81
NCL	41.40	42.46
WCL	35.20	37.01
SECL	60.33	64.12
MCL	44.80	47.81
NEC	0.66	0.64
CIL	268.14	279.65

(c) The verification of production is done through computation of physical stock at the colliery level on monthly basis, at the area level on quarterly basis, at the subsidiary level on half yearly basis and at CIL level on annual basis. Check assessment are also done at CIL level through independent agencies as well.

(d) During the period under reference the following coal stock shortages beyond 5% of book stock and in excess of 1,000 tones has been detected as per annual measurement conducted by Coal India Limited inventory team/check team.

Year	Company	Shortage in lakh tonnes
2000-2001	ECL	0.94
	BCCL	0.75
2001-2002	ECL	0.27

In other subsidiaries of Coal India Limited, no case of coal stock shortage beyond 5% of book stock and in excess of 1,000 tones were detected during the above period.

Allotment of Captive Coal Block to Karnataka

2829. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested for allotment of Captive Coal Block; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) have requested for allotment of captive coal blocks under the command area of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) to meet the coal requirement of their Bellary TPS (2 x 500 MW). Their request is under examination in consultation with Coal India Limited and their considered views will be put up to the Screening Committee for allocation of coal blocks in its next meeting.

Illegal mining and theft of coal

2830. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the contrary claims of CIL and its subsidiaries illegal mining and theft of coal in the Coal Mines continues unabated;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures Government have taken or proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Illegal mining activities in the nature of clandestine extraction and pilferage of coal from abandoned, closed, disused mines and also from outcrop region within leasehold as well as outside leasehold area of Coal India Limited (CIL) have generally been reported. Pilferage of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely mostly from the coal depot/sidings. Since these activities are carried out clandestinely and stealthily, it is not possible to exactly